

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-4 and 7-13 are allowed.

Claims 5, 6 and 14-26 are rejected.

Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to drop unit from NVRAM to correct antecedent basis problems.

Claim 14 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to differentiate between the operable circuitries introduced in Claim 14.

Claims 18 and 19 have been amended to drop "unit" following NVRAM to correct antecedent basis problems.

The Applicant respectfully asserts that the amendments to Claims 5, 6, 14, 18, and 19 and incorporated by reference in any claims depending therefrom, are not narrowing amendments made for a reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent that will give rise to prosecution history estoppel. See Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 122 S. Ct. 1831, 1839-40, 62 U.S.P.Q.2d 1705, 1711-12 (2002); 234 F.3d 555, 566, 56 U.S.P.Q.2d 1865, 1870 (Fed. Cir. 2001).

I. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 5, 6, and 14-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner states that Claims 5, 6, and 18, and 19 recite "said NVRAM unit without antecedent basis." The Applicants have amended Claims 5, 6, and 18, and 19 by dropping "unit" as NVRAM was introduced in Claim 1 from which Claims 5 and 6 depend and in Claim 14 from Claims 18 and 19 depend.

The Examiner states that Claim 14 recites circuitry operable three times; "circuitry operable to receive and write a security code in the NVRAM, circuitry operable to read the security code from the NVRAM, and circuitry operable to set the first and second state of the S-latch in response to states of the security code." Claim 14 has been amended to add first circuitry to write the security code and second circuitry to read the security code and to set the first and second state of the S-latch as suggested by the Examiner.

## II. CONCLUSION

Claims 1-4 and 7-13 are allowed.

Claims 5, 6, 18, and 19 have been amended to correct informalities or antecedent basis problems and are now in allowable form.

Claim 14 has been amended to different between circuitries introduced in Claim 14 as suggested by the Examiner and is now in allowable form.

Claims 15, 18-19 and 23-26 are now in allowable form as they depend from amended Claim 14 which is in allowable form.

Claims 16-17 and 20-22 are now in allowable form as they depended from allowable Claim 15.

The Applicant has traversed the rejections of Claims 5, 6, and 14-26 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention by the amendments suggested by the Examiner.

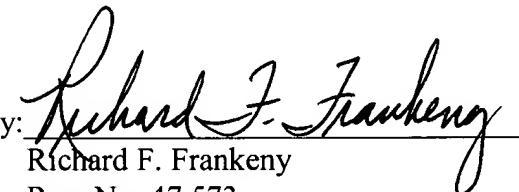
The Applicant, therefore, respectfully asserts that Claims 15-17, 20-26 and amended Claims 5-6, 14, and 18-19 are also now in condition for allowance and requests an early allowance of these claims.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call Applicant's attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining problems.

Respectfully submitted,

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